

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Crim. Action No.: 1:20-CR-81  
1:22-CR-49  
(Judge Kleehe)

BRUCE HENRY SMITH,

Defendant.

ORDER ADOPTING MAGISTRATE JUDGE'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION  
CONCERNING PLEA OF GUILTY IN FELONY CASES,  
ACCEPTING GUILTY PLEA, AND SCHEDULING SENTENCING HEARING

On August 8, 2022, the Defendant, Bruce Henry Smith ("Smith"), appeared before United States Magistrate Judge Michael J. Aloia and moved for permission to enter a plea of **GUILTY** to Counts One, Three, Five, and Seven of the Indictment in Case No. 1:20-CR-81 and Count One of the Information in Case No. 1:22-CR-49. Smith stated that he understood that the magistrate judge is not a United States District Judge, and Smith consented to pleading before the magistrate judge.

This Court referred Smith's plea of guilty to the magistrate judge for the purpose of administering the allocution, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, making a finding as to whether the plea was knowingly and voluntarily entered, and recommending to this Court whether the plea should be accepted.

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Based upon Smith's statements during the plea hearing, and the Government's proffer establishing that an independent factual basis for the plea existed, the magistrate judge found that Smith was competent to enter a plea, that the plea was freely and voluntarily given, that Smith understood the charges against him and the consequences of his plea, and that a factual basis existed for the tendered plea. The magistrate judge issued a *Report and Recommendation Concerning Plea of Guilty in Felony Cases* ("R&R") [ECF No. 84 in Case No. 1:20-CR-81, ECF No. 11 in Case No. 1:22-CR-49] finding a factual basis for the plea and recommending that this Court accept Smith's plea of guilty to Counts One, Three, Five, and Seven of the Indictment in Case No. 1:20-CR-81 and Count One of the Information in Case No. 1:22-CR-49.

The magistrate judge **remanded** Smith to the custody of the United States Marshals Service.

The magistrate judge also directed the parties to file any written objections to the R&R within fourteen (14) days after service of the R&R. He further advised that failure to file objections would result in a waiver of the right to appeal from a judgment of this Court based on the R&R. Neither Smith nor the Government filed objections to the R&R.

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Accordingly, this Court **ADOPTS** the magistrate judge's R&R [ECF No. 84 in Case No. 1:20-CR-81, ECF No. 11 in Case No. 1:22-CR-49], provisionally **ACCEPTS** Smith's guilty plea, and **ADJUDGES** him **GUILTY** of the crimes charged in Counts One, Three, Five, and Seven of the Indictment in Case No. 1:20-CR-81 and Count One of the Information in Case No. 1:22-CR-49.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(3) and U.S.S.G. § 6B1.1(c), the Court **DEFERS** acceptance of the proposed plea agreement until it has received and reviewed the presentence investigation report prepared in this matter.

Pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 6A1 et seq., the Court **ORDERS** the following:

1. The Probation Officer shall undertake a presentence investigation of Smith, and prepare a presentence investigation report for the Court;

2. The Government and Smith shall each provide their narrative descriptions of the offense to the Probation Officer by **September 12, 2022**;

3. The presentence investigation report shall be disclosed to Smith, his counsel, and the Government on or before **October 21, 2022**; however, the Probation Officer shall not disclose any

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sentencing recommendations made pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32(e)(3);

4. Counsel may file written objections to the presentence investigation report on or before **November 4, 2022**;

5. Counsel's responses to objections to the presentence investigation report shall be filed on or before **November 11, 2022**;

6. The Office of Probation shall submit the presentence investigation report with addendum to the Court on or before **December 2, 2022**; and

7. Counsel may file any written sentencing memoranda or statements and motions for departure from the Sentencing Guidelines, including the factual basis for the same, on or before **December 16, 2022**.

The Court further **ORDERS** that prior to sentencing, Smith's counsel shall review with him the revised Standard Probation and Supervised Release Conditions adopted by this Court on November 29, 2016, pursuant to the standing order entered by Chief Judge Groh, In Re: Revised Standard Probation and Supervised Release Conditions, 3:16-MC-56.

The Court will conduct the **Sentencing Hearing** for Smith on **January 4, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.**, at the **Clarksburg, West Virginia**,

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point of holding court. If counsel anticipates having multiple witnesses or an otherwise lengthy sentencing hearing, please notify the Judge's chamber staff so that an adequate amount of time can be scheduled.

It is so **ORDERED**.

The Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this Order to counsel of record and all appropriate agencies.

DATED: September 6, 2022

Handwritten signature of Thomas S. Klee in black ink.

THOMAS S. KLEE, CHIEF JUDGE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA